

## GENERAL NOTES.

**The Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) on the Coast of Maine in Summer.**—While in Jericho Bay in 1903, my companion, Mr. Fred Rackliff, saw a small gull, with several terns, flying over a tide-rip at the White Horse Ledge. On July 11 I had occasion to go ashore on the ledge and asked him to keep a watch for the strange bird and secure it if possible. On rowing to the same place the bird was found, a shot causing it to go and alight on the Black Horse where it was secured and its identity settled. While it seemed perfectly healthy, it was in worn first winter plumage, and barren. It is preserved in my collection.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Maine.*

**The Brown Pelican in Indiana.**—A specimen of the Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus fuscus*) was taken by W. S. Dean at Broad Ripple, Marion County, Indiana, on March 28, 1907. Only the one specimen was seen, and it was shot while resting on a rock in White River. This is the first record, as far as I can ascertain, for Indiana. The specimen was secured for the State Museum, of which I am curator.

There is also in the museum a specimen of the White Pelican, taken from the Wabash River near Attica, Indiana, some years ago.—W. S. BLATCHLEY, *Indianapolis, Ind.*

**The Whistling Swan in Northeastern Illinois.**—While the Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*) is considered by no means a rare bird in the Middle West, the actual capture of a specimen is not often recorded. On November 24, 1906, I spent the day four miles north of Waukegan, Ill., where Big Dead River crosses a strip of alternate sand-dunes and marsh a mile wide and a favorite place for ducks when Lake Michigan is too rough for their comfort. I learned, from a hunter, of a swan which had been shot and on my way back to Chicago stopped long enough at Waukegan to secure it. It proved to be an adult male in fine plumage. Length 53 inches, spread 83 inches, weight 30 pounds 8 ounces.

Later I wrote to Mr. H. L. Potter, who shot it, and I quote from his reply as follows: "It was killed at what is known as Farnhams Point in Big Dead River, Nov. 22, 1906. It was a lone bird, and was probably driven in to rest by the heavy wind and storm, which had lasted about three days, as they never stop here except to rest in stormy weather.

"I had shot some ducks which had drifted across and had to pole over on a piece of timber; after securing the ducks I walked up the river some distance to the 'Point' and stepping up behind some bushes to look ahead saw something out on the marsh at one side of the river, but was not sure what it was, although my suspicions were strong enough to cause me to put in a couple of charges of BB shot.

"The swan must have been asleep or dead tired as it never noticed me until I had stepped out from the cover and walked 20 or 25 yards, when all at once it raised up and I killed it the first shot."

Mr. Potter's supposition that it was driven in by stress of weather is borne out by the fact that the swan's stomach was empty. The bird, for a swan, was not over fat, but sufficiently so to test the enthusiasm of any but an old timer.—FRANK S. DAGGETT, *Oak Park, Ill.*

**The Glossy Ibis in Central New York.**—On May 11 of the present year three Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis autumnalis*) were seen to alight in the Montezuma Marsh at the foot of Cayuga Lake, by Mr. Foster Parker, who shot and preserved two of them. About ten days later he saw three others, flying high over the marsh.

Although the bird is of extremely irregular occurrence in the Middle States, the fact that two separate companies were seen makes it probable that others may have come this way, and it is hoped that this notice will cause any other observers who have been so fortunate as to see the bird to put it on record.—LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES, *Ithaca, N. Y.*

**Another Specimen of Cory's Bittern.**—The University Museum, University of Michigan, has recently secured a specimen of Cory's Bittern (*Ardetta neoxena*), a fact which it seems advisable to record in view of the rareness of the species. This specimen was taken near Toledo, Ohio, on May 25, 1907, by Mr. W. P. Holt. It was found with a large colony of Least Bitterns (*Ardetta exilis*) in the swampy tract of country east of Toledo.

The specimen is an adult male, and is apparently typical of the species. The crown is black, the front of the neck chestnut, and the abdomen, tibia, and sides, smoky brown and chestnut, with a few white, and black feathers. The lesser wing-coverts are black, the median wing-coverts chestnut.

The University Museum is indebted to Mr. W. P. Holt (the collector) for this specimen.—ALEXANDER G. RUTHVEN, *University Museum, University of Michigan.*

**The Little Blue Heron in Philadelphia County, Pa., in Spring.**—The Little Blue Heron (*Florida carula*) is of extremely rare occurrence in the vicinity of Philadelphia during the spring, but it was the writer's good fortune to see one of these interesting and fast-disappearing birds on May 11, 1904. It was seen at Holmesburg, Philadelphia County, flying slowly down the Pennypack Creek, above tidewater, toward the Delaware River, up which it evidently had previously ascended. It was a male and flew past within less than thirty feet of me, flying about twenty feet above the water, and was well seen and its identity positively determined.